

Message Text

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47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 171122Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3494

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

DOD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 26027

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: COMPROMISE OF TOP SECRET MATERIAL

REF: BANGKOK 25880

1. AT 1100 HOURS TODAY LT COL ALPERN, AARMA, HAD FURTHER MEETING WITH COL BUENO, DATT PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, TO DISCUSS THE DOCUMENT REPORTED REFTEL. IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION BUENO STATED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE MATERIAL HE HAD PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED US, HE HAD ALSO RECEIVED IN THE SAME ENVELOPE A XEROX COPY OF FIELD MANUAL 30-31, STABILITY OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE, WHICH IS AN UNCLASSIFIED DOCUMENT.

2. BUENO STATED THAT THE ENVELOPE OF DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN DISCOVERED AT APPROXIMATELY 0700 HOURS SEPTEMBER 16 IN A GLASS ENCLOSED BULLETIN BOARD DIRECTLY OUTSIDE THE PHILLIPINE EMBASSY. HE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALPERN THE ENVELOPE THE DOCUMENTS WERE CONTAINED IN WHICH BORE THAI POSTAGE STAMPS. HOWEVER, BUENO DID NOT FEEL THAT THE MATERIALS HAD BEEN SENT THROUGH THE THAI POSTAL SYSTEM AS THE NORMAL PROCEDURE IS FOR THE MAILMAN TO GO INTO THE EMBASSY TO DELIVER MAIL AND NOT TO LEAVE IT AT THE BULLETIN BOARD.

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3. BUENO WAS INITIALLY UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TOP SECRET

DOCUMENT WAS GENUINE AND WAS SURPRISED THAT THE AMERICAN MISSION DID NOT HAVE A COPY AVAILABLE TO VERIFY ITS AUTHENTICITY.

ALPERN STATED THAT WE DID NOT HAVE A COPY OF SUCH A DOCUMENT AT THE MISSION. ALPERN FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE DOCUMENT DID NOT APPEAR TO BE GENUINE BUT WE ARE CHECKING AND WOULD INFORM HIM AS SOON AS WE HAD POSITIVE RESULTS. BUENO DID NOT COMMENT WHAT ACTION HE INTENDED TO TAKE CONCERNING THE DOCUMENTS, BUT ALPERN ASSUMED THAT THEY WOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE PHILIPPINES AND THAT SOME TELEGRAPHIC NOTIFICATION MAY ALREADY HAVE BEEN SENT.

4. BUENO DID NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE DOCUMENTS BUT HE DID STATE THAT HE THOUGHT THEY MIGHT BE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND MIGHT BE DIRECTED AT DISRUPTING PRESENT BASE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

5. BUENO PROVIDED ALPERN WITH ORIGINAL ENVELOPES THE DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN CONTAINED IN AND THE ORIGINAL LETTER TO PRESIDENT MARCOS WITH THE STIPULATION THEY BE RETURNED THE SAME DAY. DOCUMENTS WERE BROUGHT TO EMBASSY, PHOTOGRAPHED, AND RETURNED TO BUENO AT 1600 HOURS THIS DATE. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.
BURKE

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